

REMARKS

Claims 1 – 8, 10, 13 – 16, and 30 - 37 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejections in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

CLAIM OBJECTIONS

Claim 1 is objected to because in claim 1, line 7, it appears the word --of-- should be inserted prior to “grooves”. Applicants have amended claim 1 to insert the word --of-- before the word “grooves”. This objection, therefore, should be moot.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1 – 8, 10, 13 – 16, and 30 - 32 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Examiner alleges that the phrase, “each ridge including a plurality of discreet, spaced apart regions” is unclear. Claim 1, therefore, has been amended and rewritten. Claim 1 now calls for the ridges to formed of a plurality of discontinuous, discreet, and spaced apart regions. Such a configuration of the ridges is depicted, for example, in Figure 19. Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 now particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter of the claimed invention. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Toshio et al. (Toshio, Japanese Patent Document No. 09-271909, cited by the Applicants in the IDS submitted January 14, 2003). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As stated above, claim 1 has been amended to call for ridges that include a plurality of discontinuous, discreet, and spaced apart regions. Toshio, does not disclose or teach such a cooling roll. More particularly, referring to Figures (a) and (c) of Toshio, a cooling roll is depicted wherein the ridges and grooves are provided in either a v-shape or a w-shape. As Toshio does not teach a plurality of ridges that include a plurality of discontinuous, discreet, and spaced apart regions, Toshio does not disclose the claimed cooling roll and, therefore, the claimed invention is not anticipated. As such, claim 1 and each corresponding dependent claim are not anticipated.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

1. Claims 2, 3, 5 – 8, 13 and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Toshio as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Fukuno et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,665,177). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2, 3, 5-8, 13, and 31 are dependent on claim 1, addressed above. These claims are not obvious for at least the same reasons. That is, neither Toshio nor Fukuno teach, suggest, or provide motivation to utilize a cooling roll with ridges that include a plurality of discontinuous, discreet, and spaced apart regions. As such, these claims should be in condition for allowance.

2. Claims 1, 10, 14 – 16, and 31 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartlett et al. (U.S. Patent No. 4,865,117). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claim 1 has been amended to call for ridges that include a plurality of discontinuous, discreet, and spaced apart regions. Bartlett, does not disclose or teach such a cooling roll. More particularly, Bartlett merely teaches a cooling roll wherein the ridges and grooves are provided in a helical orientation. Moreover, Bartlett does not teach, suggest, or provide motivation to utilize the claimed cooling roll with the plurality of discontinuous, discreet, and spaced apart regions. The claimed invention, therefore, is not obvious.

3. Claims 2, 3, 5 –7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bartlett et al. as applied to claims 1, 10, and 14 – 16 above, and further in view of Fukuno et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,665,177). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 2, 3, and 5-7 are dependent on claim 1, addressed above. These claims are not obvious for at least the same reasons. That is, neither Bartlett nor Fukuno teach, suggest, or provide motivation to utilize a cooling roll with ridges that include a plurality of discontinuous, discreet, and spaced apart regions. As such, these claims should be in condition for allowance.

ALLOWABLE SUBJECT MATTER

The Examiner states that claims 33-37 are allowed. Applicants acknowledge, with thanks, the allowance of these claims. Further, the Examiner states that claims 4, 30, and 32 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form to include all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Notwithstanding, Applicants have amended claim 1 to call for ridges including a plurality of discontinuous, discreet, and spaced apart regions. None of the prior art references

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ited anticipate or render obvious such a configuration. Claims 4, 30, and 32, therefore, should now be in condition for allowance for at least the same reasons as their independent base claim.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated:

Jan 15, 2004

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